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REMARKS

Claim and Application Status

Claims 9-29 remain pending in the present application.

Claims 9-12, 15-18 and 22 are amended herein in an editorial manner and not in response to the art or any formal defect.

Applicants respectfully traverse the previous rejection of the claims.

Request for Personal Interview

Applicants respectfully request a personal interview with the Examiner to discuss the previously cited art in view of the claims. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at 503-495-4575 to arrange a convenient time for the interview, should this Amendment be forward to the Examiner prior to the scheduling of an interview.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 accompany this Amendment and Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Consideration of the documents listed on the Form 1449 is requested.

Conclusion

We look forward to our upcoming interview.

Date: March 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 23735

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